My name is Tonja Burden of Las Vegas, Nevada. I am 20 years old. On March 3, 1973, when I was 13 years old, my father, who was a Scientologist, put me in Scientology under the control of L. Ron Hubbard. Hubbard started the organization in the 1950's and runs it like a military dictator. He has an intelligence group called the 'Sea Org' and a secret police called the 'GO' or the Guardian's Office which controls every Scientology "church" in the world.

After a period of indoctrination and brainwashing, I was placed on the ship, APOLLO, under the immediate command of Hubbard. The APOLLO was one of five ships operated by Scientology. There were approximately 500 Scientologists on the APOLLO. Two days after I arrived on the ship, they put me into the ESTATES PROJECT FORCE where I was forced to scrub clothes and do other menial labor sometimes for as long as 3 to 4 days at a time without sleep.

After 3 months of 18 hour work days, 7 days a week, I became the personal messenger of Hubbard. As his personal messenger, I was his personal servant 24 hours a day. I took care of his personal needs and also carried

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sleeping at the door to the storage area where we slept and crawled through an air duct on my stomach to an area where I could call my relatives who came and helped me escape.

Approximately 2 weeks after I returned home, two of Hubbard's agents came to my house and convinced me to have a cup of coffee with them. After I got in the car they said that they were taking me to Los Angeles to see Hubbard. In Los Angeles I was locked in a room and forced to undergo a "Security Check" on the E-Meter. I was very scared and crying and told them I had a family reunion to go to over the holidays and that I had relatives in the police department in Las Vegas and that I would come back in three days. I convinced them to let me go and they then left me at the bus station in Los Angeles where I returned home. For weeks afterwards, they constantly called me to find out when I would return, and I said "Never".

I was in Scientology from age 13 to age 18. I received approximately $2.50 a week pay for some weeks and at other times approximately $17.20 a week. I received no formal education and in fact phony classrooms were set up in Florida to demonstrate to educational officials that education was taking place. Scientology

Tonya Burden

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